GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:147
ANSWERED ON:02.02.2017
Cauvery and Mahadayi River Water Sharing Disputes
Chandrappa Shri B.N.;Kateel Shri Nalin Kumar;Suresh Shri Doddaalahalli Kempegowda

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that people of Karnataka are facing drinking water crisis due to insufficient water storage as a result of deficient rainfall, if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the Government has taken note that farmers and pro-Kannada outfit activists protested in various parts of the State relating to river disputes such as Cauvery and Mahadayi rivers, if so the details thereof;
(c) whether the Government is taking any steps to intervene in the water sharing disputes and settle the issues to put an end to the problem; and
(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) & (b) During the meeting of Supervisory Committee on Cauvery held in September, 2016, the Government of Karnataka highlighted the drinking water requirement of Cauvery Basin areas of Karnataka. Further, to meet drinking water requirement of Cauvery areas, the Chief Minister of Karnataka in August, 2015 wrote to the Central Government about the need to transfer water from Mahadayi basin to Hubli Dharwad areas of Karnataka.

(c) & (d) The Supervisory Committee on Cauvery held meeting with the representatives of the basin States on 12.09.2016 and 19.09.2016. As per directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its order dated 27.09.2016 the Ministry convened meeting with the Hon'ble Chief Ministers of the basin States on 29.09.2016. Further, the Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its order dated 4.10.2016 constituted a High Level Technical team. This team visited the Cauvery basin reservoirs and command areas of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu from 07.10.2016 to 10.10.2016 to assess ground realities of Cauvery Basin. The Committee submitted its report on 18.10.2016 to Hon'ble Court and the same was taken on record. As on date, the matter is pending adjudication in the Supreme Court and hence subjudice.

With a view to adjudicate inter-states water disputes, this Ministry had constituted different Inter-State water disputes Tribunals under ISRWD Act, 1956 whenever requests were received from party States. The details and the status of the Inter-State Water Dispute Tribunals in the country is at ANNEXURE-I.

To streamline the adjudication of disputes of inter-state river waters , a proposal to amend the existing Inter-State River Water Dispute Act, 1956, has been considered and approved by Cabinet on 7.12.2016. This Ministry has initiated the process of introduction of the proposal in the Parliament.

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Annexure-I

Annexure referred in reply to parts (c) to (d) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 147 to be answered on 2.2.2017.

Status of Inter-State water disputes Tribunal constituted under ISRWD Act, 1956

S.
No Name of Tribunal States concerned Date of constitution Present Status
1. Godavari Water Disputes Tribunal
(GWDT) Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh &Odisha April, 1969 Award given on July, 1980
2. Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal -I Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, April, 1969 Award given on May, 1976
3. Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal
Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra October, 1969 Award given on December, 1979
4. Ravi & Beas Water Tribunal Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan April, 1986 Report and decision under section 5(2) given in April, 1987. Clarification/explanation sought from the Tribunal under Section 5(3) of the ISRWD Act by the party States.
5. Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal
(CWDT) Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Puduchery June, 1990 Report and decision given on 5.2.2007 which was published vide Notification dated 19.2.2013. Clarification/explanation sought from the Tribunal under Section 5(3) of the said Act by the party States. Also, Special Leave Petition (SLP) filed by party States in Hon'ble Supreme Court, as such the matter is sub-judice.
6. Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal -II Karnataka, Telengana, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra April, 2004 Report and decision given on 30.12. 2010. Further report given by the Tribunal on 29.11.2013. However, as per Supreme Court Order dated 16.9.2011, till

further order, decision taken by the Tribunal on references filed by States and Central Government shall not be published in the official Gazette. As such, matter is sub-judice. Term of the Tribunal has been extended for a further period of one year w.e.f. 01.08.2016 to address the terms of reference as contained in section 89 of Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014. The Government of Telengana has filed a SLP 33623-26 of 2014 and WP(C) 545 of 2015 in the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter. The matter is sub-judice.

7. Vansadhara Water Disputes Tribunal Andhra Pradesh &Odisha February, 2010

However, as per the Supreme Court order the date of reckoning of the constitution of the Tribunal is w.e.f. 17.9.2012 Vansadhara Water Disputes Tribunal in its Order dated 17.12.2013 has directed to constitute a 3-member Protem Supervisory Flow Management and Regulation Committee on River Vansadhara to implement its Order. State Govt. of Odisha has filed Special Leave to Appeal (Civil) No.3392 of 2014 with regard to the Vansadhara Water Disputes Tribunal Judgement dated 17.12.2013. The matter is sub-judice. Final Report and Decision under Section 5(2) of the ISRWD Act, 1956 not given by the Tribunal.

8. Mahadayi Water Disputes Tribunal Goa, Karnataka and Maharashtra November, 2010

However, vide notification dated 13.11.2014

date of reckoning of the constitution of the Tribunal is w.e.f. 21.08.2013 Tribunal yet to submit its final report.